

## QUARTZ AS A PRECIOUS GEM

Rock Crystal is the Purest Form of It.

### AMEYTHYST AND AGATE

THEY WILL PROBABLY BE SUPERSEDED BY IT

Crystal Ball in the Boston Fine Arts Museum Measures 7 1/4 Inches in Diameter, Weighs 15 Pounds, and is Valued at \$20,000.—A Workman Employed Three Years and a Half in Cutting It—Agates—Thousands of Peasants Annually Visit the Famous Madonna Agate in the Vienna Collection

BY GEORGE F. KUNZ.  
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Rock crystal is the purest form of quartz, transparent, colorless, and exhibiting most perfectly the properties of the mineral. It is widely distributed, but is brought chiefly from Brazil, Madagascar, Japan and North Carolina. It is wrought, especially by the Japanese, into polished crystal balls and other articles of elegant ornament. The Romans made much use of it to incise their daggers, and it has been worked into vessels and caskets from the time of Nero to the present, but especially during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Remarkable crystal objects are to be seen in the Louvre, the Green Vault of Dresden, the Schatzkammer at Vienna, and at Madrid.

#### SOME FAMOUS CRYSTALS.

Spheres of rock crystal were used as show stones, and for divination, from the thirteenth to the eighteenth centuries. The engraving and cutting of some of these was so elaborate as to cost years of work, and thousands of dollars. Spheres have been cut up to eight inches in diameter and valued at from \$1,000 to \$20,000. Nearly the latest price was paid by the late Governor Ames for the magnificent crystal ball bequeathed to the Boston Fine Arts Museum. This ball measures 8 1/2 in. or 7 3/4 inches in diameter, weighs 15 pounds, and was found in 1876. The crystal from which it was cut was 18 inches high, 14 1/2 inches wide, and 12 inches thick. It was found on the Orizaba-mt. in Mexico. The property of Naito Arimori, and purchased from Naito Arimori for \$18,000 yen—about \$15,000. It was cut by an old workman who had devoted his entire life to cutting rock crystal balls. This one was started in June 1881, and finished in December, 1884. The ball weighs 15 pounds. The famous Dresden ball measures 6 1/2 inches and weighs 16 1/2 pounds, but is quite imperfect. A 5-inch ball cut from material found in Ashe county, North Carolina, and another of nearly 6 inches in diameter from the summit of Mount Antero, Colorado, are now in the Field Columbian museum in Chicago. Though not entirely perfect, they are quite equal to the crystal balls of the eighteenth century.

#### THEIR ARTIFICIAL PRODUCTION.

At Hot Springs, Ark., clear, rolled pebbles found on the banks of the Ouachita are often sold. These are more highly prized than the quartz crystals, as the fancy prevails that they cut clearer gems. The scarcity of these, and the demand for them, has led to their artificial production, by putting the crystals in a box which is kept revolving for a few days by water power. Any expert, however, can discern the difference, since the artificial ones have a little whiter surface.

Many localities in Colorado furnish fine specimens, and along the New Jersey coast and Long Branch, Atlantic City, Cape May, and other places, transparent pebbles are found in the sand, and are sought after by the visitors, who often buy them as souvenirs. At such places, the local lapidaries have been known to substitute for pebbles from the beach foreign cut quartz, calcimorph, topaz, crocidolite, beryl, moonstone, and even glass, containing twice the value of the foreign gem for the supposed cutting. Sometimes even the stones found by the visitors are exchanged for cut ones from Bohemia, Oldenburg, and the Jura. Cutting is done abroad on so large a scale and by labor so poorly paid, that the cut stones can be delivered in this country at a price of the price of cutting here, as the rock-crystal itself has but little value.

#### THE PLACE OF AMETHYSTS AMONG GEMS.

Amethyst is a transparent purple variety of quartz, owing its color to oxide of manganese. It is a very beautiful stone, much used by the ancients to engrave on, as well as in jewelry. But certain varieties are now but little valued, because not rare enough to be costly. It is found in Brazil, Ceylon, India, the Ural mountains, etc. In the latter region near Mordukha, an enormous deep purple gem, changing to red by artificial light, some of which have sold for \$500 each. For intensity and perfection of color, and one might say majestic beauty, these rival almost any other gem. Smaller but equally fine amethysts occur in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, Maine and North Carolina. Oriental amethyst is a purple variety of sapphires, far more rare and valuable than the ordinary amethyst.

#### AGATES.

Agates are usually formed by the deposit of silica with more or less of coloring oxides, in the cavities of igneous rocks. When the coloring oxides, they fall out as hard nodules, and are then found on the surface, or frequently strewn along shores, beaches, and the beds of streams. These agate pebbles are abundant on the shores of Lake Superior, and on the beach of Pescadero, Cal., and are gathered as souvenirs, and to some extent cut for local jewelry. Externally, they are rough and of little beauty, dense, veined structures and colors only appearing on breaking them and still more upon polishing. It is made into seals, rings, pendants, handles for swords, knives and forks, mortars for grinding chemicals, bearings for the balances, beads, studs, earrings, trinkets, match boxes and many other objects.

A peculiar feature of all these agates and chaledonies is their power of absorbing coloring matters under certain conditions, and by this means all manner of highly colored varieties are artificially produced by skillful treatment of the stone. Most of the deep red carnelians and sardis are thus prepared by burning from pale and dull colored chaledony, and all the black agate which has now quite replaced jet in mourning jewelry. In the banded varieties some of the bands are more absorbent than others, and thus the highly colored black and white onyx, and red and white sardonyx, are produced, and most of the richly tinted variegated agates used for ornamental work. Picture agate is the name given to quartz marking resembling human faces or other objects. The famous madonna agate in the Vienna collection has thousands of peasant visitors annually.

Agate has been much less used during the past twenty years than formerly, the annual sales not exceeding

\$1,000. Since the recent introduction into cheap jewelry of the Chinese natural green and artificially colored red and yellow stones, agate, the sale of the American has greatly fallen off. At Hartsville, Wyoming, large masses of moss agate, weighing from forty to fifty pounds each, were recently found in limestone rock. When cut into translucent slabs, they show the magnificent black dendritic or moss-like markings in a most striking manner. Some table tops of this elegant material were exhibited in the Wyoming section of the mining building at the World's Columbian exposition. The finest instructive collection of agate known is the wonderful series presented to the Harvard mineralogical cabinet by Dr. W. S. Bigelow of Boston. Ruskin wrote upon and presented a fine series of agates to the British museum. It is chaledony is boiled in a solution of molasses and water, blood and water, or sugar and water, until it has absorbed a quantity of the solution, and is then again boiled in sulphuric acid, the transparent hydro-carbon is changed to a charcoal-like substance, and black onyx is produced. When white bands alternate with the chaledony, they are impervious to the coloring and appear clearer and brighter. Black onyx has now almost entirely superseded jet.

The yellow variety is made by first putting the stones in a honey solution, then in a solution of chromic acid of lead for several days. Digestion for a few weeks in hydrochloric acid, kept at a moderate heat, gives a beautiful clear yellow color to the stones that were before a dirty brown. This is also erroneously called golden opal. Stones of a reddish hue are greatly improved in brilliancy and color by first thoroughly drying them for weeks in ovens, then dipping them in sulphuric acid, heating to full red heat, and afterwards slowly cooling them. The changes that take place in both these processes are upon the oxide of iron which is the coloring matter.

#### CHANGES WROUGHT BY MODERN CHEMISTRY.

Modern chemistry has wrought great changes in agate coloring, as in other arts, a secret process having been discovered by which chaledony of any single color can be made to assume any two or more colors, so that an onyx of any shape or variety of colors can be made. If a sunken center of another color is required it can be made so that the figure when cut out remains in a hollow, forming a cameo intaglio. In this manner the fine cutting of the cameo is protected. A white figure may be made in a black stone, a red figure in a brown stone, or a white one in a red stone. By this process the entire stone is first changed to one color desired for the outer layer, then a cavity is cut in the top and a solution put into it, which alters it to the required color. It is this discovery that has made a formerly valuable onyx worth now only a nominal sum.

Agates are thus made to assume the onyx character, which is desired by the lapidary for the production of cameos and intaglios in imitation of the antique sculptured gems. In cameos the figures are in relief and of a different color from the ground. Intaglios are usually of one color. In Persia, inscriptions or devices are written on beads of carnelian and other forms of agate with carbonate of soda, and other substances, and then burnt and the inscription appears white in contrast to the other color.

The principal supply of agates for the last hundred years has come from Brazil, and other South American countries, where it is mostly found by Germans who leave Oldenburg for that purpose, and who persevere until they find the place it is sent to Germany for cutting, ready to Observe and labor. Every fortnight from five to ten tons of the rough material is sold in fairs at public auction, usually in assorted lots of 100 or 300 pounds. The industry yields to the district an annual net profit of half a million dollars; and good agate workmen are among the best paid laborers in Germany, earning from \$1.50 to \$2 per day.

#### THE FOOTBALL HERO.

Just as it would be impossible to make another story which would so wholly convince the ever critical boy—even if all the novelists in the world were to combine their wits and energies—so it is impossible to suggest the fresh, wholesome flavor, the naive unconsciousness, the honest boy barbarism, of "Tom Brown's School Days" to those mortals who have not read it. But to the boy who has in this book lived at Rugby, with Tom as a school friend, a mention of the landmarks in the careers of these two veritable youngsters is an instant reminder that they have furnished him with his most powerful impressions of things good and bad to do at school, and the way a self-respecting boy ought to do them. Did any battle description ever exceed in moral enthusiasm, in high loyalty, and in the feeling of a good fellow, the football struggle which initiated young Tom in the most sacred rite of schoolboy sports? Was there ever a more undeviating hero than Old Brooke, or one surer of the worship of all the boys young and old? The career and downfall of Flashman the bully; that memorable, that heroic combat between Tom Brown and Slogger Williams in the defense of weak Arthur; the exciting race of the hare-and-hounds; the freeing of Tom by Velveteens; and the final cricket match when the hero, having passed through the harrowing vicissitudes of a schoolboy's life, seems to have attained the very last glory of nineteen years, a set of whiskers and the captaincy of the school cricket team—these are memories to conjure with from "Tom Brown's School Days," by Charles D. Lanier, in May Review of Reviews.

#### BAKE-NECKED SKATERS.

Holland Women Appear on the Ice With Ball-Gown Bodices.

We are accustomed to see women bundled up in furs as they glide over the ice. To witness a woman's race in Holland would give us a greater chill than to meet a ghost at midnight. A foreign correspondent, in mentioning a contest on skates, describes it as follows: "It was snowing slightly, but in every available moment between the races troops of men were told to clear the course. At a given signal six women started for the first race. They were dressed in very short skirts, thin transparent looking blouses, low necks with no sleeves at all. We were told they were among the lower peasant people, and that the shop classes never entered the lists at all. The speed they went at was something most wonderful, especially remarkable at the corners. For the most part they raced with their arms behind them, but the girl who won the prize (2) skated with hers folded in front."

#### WORKING A PERCENTAGE.

A Texas gentleman told his colored cook: "Matilda, if you will bring back the right change from the market every morning, I'll give you a dollar a month extra."

#### A FLYING START.

"Law met" said Mrs. Jacob. "Mary Lease says she went in with them Populists only as a peepshow for the ministry."

## THE METHODS OF FAMOUS LAWYERS

How Some of Them Seek to Impress the Jury.

### CHOATE'S SHARP SATIRE

HOW LAWYERS WATCH EACH OTHER AT WORK.

It is Worth, Says Our Correspondent, Going a Long Way to See How Ingersoll Try a Case—Concord's Artists Magnanimity Serves His Clients Well—Ingersoll as a Reader of Character and General Tracy's Pathos.

NEW YORK, May 1.—Whenever any of the big lawyers of the metropolis or the legal luminaries of other cities, have a case to try in the courts here every lawyer in town who can spare the time goes to that particular court to observe how the great man tries his case. It is not an every day occurrence to see one of the great legal giants hard at work, as not many people can afford to pay the fee required by these men when their personal attention to a case is demanded.

Many people employ the firms of which these lawyers are leading lights, and they pay heavy sums for doing so, but unless treble the amount be handed over, the case is given into the care of some junior member, or some employee of the firm, and he manages it to the best of his ability.

Joseph Hodges Choate, for instance, never gives his attention to a case which requires much attendance at court for less than \$2,000. As the leading lawyer in the country today he can easily fix his own price and there are always a number of wealthy people and rich corporations ready to pay it. Mr. Choate earns something like \$125,000 a year, and naturally he places a high value on his time.

It is to see how a man with this pile of money acts that all the lawyers flock to the court room when the news dies around that Joe Choate is going to argue a case. Each one of the big lawyers has certain mannerisms and unique methods for impressing the judge and jury. Some of the bar do their best to copy their peculiarities, but unfortunately they lack the genius underlying the work of the legal heavyweights.

#### SEEKS A SATIRICAL TARGET.

At times Mr. Choate will take up a case and put his whole heart and soul into it when the chances of his deriving any pecuniary benefits are mighty slim. The Laidlaw suit against Russell Sage is an instance of this kind. Mr. Choate worked like a Trojan in Laidlaw's behalf for the mere pleasure of making Uncle Russell squirm in the witness chair.

Mr. Choate had the faculty of saying the most satirical things and rubbing them in deeply with the most innocent face and manner. His bearing is all frankness and politeness, but his tongue is just the reverse. He has the any one who hoards up money for the mere pleasure of owning numerous dollars, and for many years Russell Sage and Henry Green have been his particular targets. During one of the trials in the Laidlaw suit, when Uncle Russell was on the stand, Mr. Choate in a pointedly asked the aged financier if he were true that he was a great philanthropist. Mr. Sage answered in the question and grinned, but he didn't like it when Mr. Choate asked him if it were true that he wore brown paper waistcoats.

Mr. Choate makes few gestures when speaking. He reserves all his vitality and energy for the summing up, and has repeatedly talked solid fact for six hours at a time without showing signs of fatigue, and every word he utters is worth listening to.

When engaged in the trial of a cause he begins the summing up in his own mind the moment the trial begins. He believes that the sure way to convince the jury is to stick to the main facts and to construct a theory of the case consistent with the undisputed points. Cases, he thinks, are won and lost by the lawyer's main facts and features and not on insignificant details, especially nowadays, when trials are conducted under great pressure for time. Mr. Choate always likes to have a good lawyer fight against him, being of the opinion that a case is more likely to be tried on its merits, the function of the lawyer being to aid in the administration of justice.

#### COUDERT'S TIRELESS COURTESY.

Frederick Kene Coudert, who is a good second to Choate in judicial greatness, is most effective in cases where intricate legal knowledge is required. He has the faculty of presenting the driest and most prosaic facts in an interesting way and can give an inviting coloring to a statement in which cold figures are uppermost. Mr. Coudert, while of French descent, is the least theatrical of all the big lawyers. His gestures are few, and his jury cases he wins favor at once by his courteous treatment of his opponents. He always conveys the idea that he rather pities the other side because of the weakness of their case, and would like to help them make as good a showing as possible. He does this so delicately that each juror thinks he has made an important and useful discovery.

Mr. Coudert never badgers a witness. He is so gentle and obliging that the witness feels in honor bound to reciprocate and says very nearly what the astute lawyer wishes to go on record. In the summing up Mr. Coudert is more emphatic and brings out all the strong points of his case with startling force. He is a fluent talker, with a quaint kind of humor, and usually manages to look upon every subject from a unique point of view. General Benjamin F. Tracy likes to get hold of a sensational case to show how he can handle it. In divorce suits he is at his best, and by artfully inducing witnesses to contradict one another he manages to make the case of the other side appear very weak. He can make a most wonderful appeal to the jury, and if his client happens to be a woman he always succeeds in making her cry at the proper moment.

#### WORKS ON THE JURY.

It is worth while going a long way to see Colonel Bob Ingersoll try a case. He has a tremendous amount of energy and he can make a fine and stirring appeal to the jury. He likes to get the desperate side of a case for the mere pleasure of making much out of it. He grasps the smallest and most insignificant item in a case and develops it into a regular bombshell before the trial is concluded.

He is a clever reader of human character, and in jury cases picks out two or three men whom he is convinced are dogged and determined. He concentrates his energy to win these men to his side of the case, and if he doesn't get an acquittal he feels confident of a disagreement.

Elihu Root, who can make a better showing against Mr. Choate than any of the other lawyers because of his imperturbability of temper, is at his best in cases which require deep and long

research. He spends unusual time in the preparation of his cases, storing himself with a fund of information which is certain to puzzle the lawyers on the other side unless they have set up their noses for many weeks looking up similar cases for the past hundred years. Mr. Root is most formidable in summing up, 50,000 words of solid being his average in important cases.

#### AREA OF OCEANS.

The surface of the sea is estimated at 136,000,000 square miles, taking the whole surface of the globe at 37,000,000, and its greatest depth is supposed to be equal to that of the highest mountain, or four miles. The Pacific ocean covers 78,000,000 square miles, the Atlantic 25,000,000, the Mediterranean 1,000,000.—Nature.

#### SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR BOYS.

The training in citizenship and political methods was only less valuable than the training in practical thrift and industrial economics. The several industrial classes were allowed to be represented in the two chambers of the republic's congress. Each industrial class elected one member of the house of representatives for every twelve persons, and elected one member of the senate. Representatives were elected for a term of one week, and senators for a period of two weeks. Thus the experience of conducting an election was enjoyed eight or nine times in the course of the two months. The ballot was carried on in approved fashion, and so the members of Mr. George's little commonwealth were prepared to understand not only what elections mean, but all about the conduct and machinery of elections, the necessity for pure and honest elections in a self-governing community, and the proper safeguards to protect the exercise of the elective franchise.—From "Vacation Camps and Boys' Republics," by Albert Shaw, in May Review of Reviews.

#### AN ALLEGED NAVAL SCANDAL.

##### Shanghai Story of Love and Tragedy That is Not Credited.

An eastern paper prints the story of an alleged scandal at Shanghai involving Paymaster Clark of the Detroit and Mrs. Weston, wife of a prominent merchant. According to the story, Clark, who is in love with Mrs. Weston, and his infatuation led him to neglect his duties on shipboard and plunge in a carnival of dissipation. Shortly before the Pekin sailed the officer attempted to kill the woman, luring her to a vacant house and firing three shots at her. He either failed to commit suicide or was shot in return, for when found he had a bullet through the heart. Both declined to talk, so the story goes, after they were found. The story is credited in local naval circles, as the following telegram from Valparaiso shows:

"There must be some mistake about Clark. There is no such paymaster in the navy. The Detroit's pay officer is Passed Assistant Paymaster Charles S. Williams. The officers seen here tonight know nothing of Clark."

#### BUILDING GUNBOATS.

##### A Start Made at the Union Iron Works.

The construction of two 1,500 ton composite coppered gunboats for the government has been begun at the Union Iron works, San Francisco. They are the first of their model to be built on the Pacific coast. Cramp is constructing four with auxiliary sail power, but those under way are to be propelled entirely by steam. These gunboats are to be 174 feet long and 34 feet wide. Their mean draught will be 12 feet and their speed 3 knots an hour. They will be provided with twin screws, and be perfect little yachts. Their cost will be \$200,000 each, and, with guns and full equipment \$300,000 each. Thus far the keels have been laid. Fair progress is being made. It is expected to launch them about mid-summer, and have them completed in about a year. The gunboats will have steel hulls, wooden planking. They will be thoroughly caulked and then copper sheathed, so as not to require frequent dry docking when in foreign stations. They are intended for river and shallow water service, and will likely be utilized on the Chinese coast.

#### THE WEATHERVANE.

The wind blows east.  
The wind blows west;  
Or hot or cold,  
Each way is best,  
I turn and swing,  
As turns the breeze  
To east, to west,  
To warm, to freeze.

Today this way,  
Tomorrow that—  
For or against,  
But neither flat,  
But let who will  
Scold or complain,  
It cuts no ice  
With the weathervane.  
—New York World.

"Talk about western enterprise," audibly mused the eastern man, as the train rolled across the Illinois prairies. "This beats anything I ever saw. These farmers along the road have lamps in their corn fields, which evidently keep the crops growing all night. There is a sublimity in such ingenuity."

"Pshaw!" said the porter, "them's street lamps. Dis is Chicago."—Truth.

Polite Hostess—Do you think you could eat another piece of pie, Tommy?

Tommy—I think I could eat a m'um, if I stood up.—Chicago Dispatch.

"Mamma, why do they call it the weathervane bureau?"

"Because the top drawer is generally in such a frightful mess, I suppose."—Chicago Record.

#### RECIPE TO GREATNESS.

Most paths unto greatness  
Are deviously turned,  
But here is a highway  
That's easily learned.  
Remember, while seeking  
Position or power,  
To think by the minute  
And talk by the hour.  
And then, when you've gotten  
Astride of fame's peak,  
Keep still when the public  
Expects you to speak.  
—Washington Star.

#### VASSAR'S CHAMPION SPRINTER.

She is Miss Elizabeth Vassar and Can Run With Any One.

The name of Vassar is gaining fresh lustre. Perhaps it is a luster at which the austere Matthew Vassar would look askance, but it is a luster with modern approval. Miss Elizabeth Forbes Vassar is the young woman who is reflecting credit upon the family name. She is the champion sprinter of Vassar college. The best broad jumper is Miss Lister Baker, while Miss Laura J. Brounell takes the running high jump.

The field where the Vassar girls train is oval shaped. It is concealed from the eyes of the curious by a high evergreen hedge. No regular costume is worn. Most of the girls use gymnasium suits of divided skirts, or full knickerbockers covered by skirts which reach to the knee. In the outdoor work they invariably wear heavy white sweaters, embroidered with the figure of their class number.

Magical little granules—those tiny sugar-coated Pellets of Dr. Pierce—scurge larger than mustard seeds, yet powerful to cure active chronic disease in operation. The best liver pill ever invented. Cure sick headache, dizziness, constipation. One a dose. Whole vital 25c.

Coughing irritates the delicate organs and aggravates the disease. Instead of waiting, try One Minute Cough Cure. It helps you once, making expectation easy, reduces the soreness and inflammation. Every one likes it. For sale by Nelden-Judson Drug Co.

# Something Great Removal Sale!

Our Entire Stock of Men's, Ladies' and Children's Shoes, and Gent's Furnishing Goods, Must Be Greatly Reduced Before We Move. MONDAY, May 4, at 9 A. M., We Commence This Sale.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Children's Pebble Grain, soft upper, school shoes, spring and cap, 5 to 8,      | Men's Gray Merino Underwear, per suit,             |
| 59c.  | 42c.   |
| The same shoe in sizes 9 to 12, at  | Men's fine Jersey Balbriggan Underwear,            |
| 69c.  | 50c.   |
| Children's Dongola Pat. tip, Spring heel, shoes, cut from \$1.25 and \$1.50, to | Men's fine fast black, seamless socks at           |
| 95c.  | 8 1-3c.  |
| Sizes 8 to 12.  | Men's extra quality silk neck bowing ties at       |
|   | 25c.   |
| Children's Square Toe, spring heel, tan shoes, 5 to 10, at                      | Men's Colored Border, Hemstitched Handkerchiefs at |
| 95c.  | 6 1-4c.  |

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Everything pertaining to this novel instrument can be found in their stock.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Ladies' Muslin Pants, cheap at 35c, at             | 25c Fiber Shamo at                                |
| 18c.   | 15c.  |
| Ladies' fine black pat. tip, razor toe, Oxfords at | Ladies' fine trimmed night gowns, cut from \$1 to |
| \$1.45.  | 79c.  |

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